

REMARKS

1. Objections Based on Informalities:

Applicants have amended independent claims 1 and 7 to incorporate the Examiner's suggestion that the silicone rubber, organic matrix and silver particles be more clearly described as discrete and separate components of the claimed composition. Claim 1 has also been amended to comply with the Examiner's recommendation that the limitation regarding concentration of silver particles be made in reference to the composition as a whole and not just a surface of said composition. Claim 2 refers to a cured composition which is not dimensionless and therefore references to silver concentration levels at an exposed surface of the composition are appropriate.

2. Claims Rejected Under 35 U.S.C. §112, Second Paragraph:

Applicants have amended Claim 6 to ensure that there is proper antecedent basis for all language therein. Further, the various organic fluids which can be used as the organic matrix for the present invention are re-written as a Markush group. Reference to a "viscous" organic fluid has been removed.

3. Double Patenting:

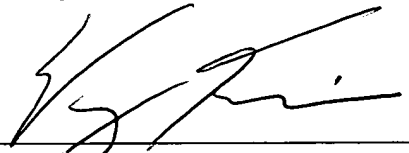
The examiner states that Applicant's failure to claim the silicone rubber, organic matrix and silver nanoparticles as discrete and separate components gave rise to a non-statutory obviousness-type double patenting rejection. As Applicants have amended the claims to overcome this objection, it is respectfully requested that the double-patenting rejection be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

Applicants submit that this Amendment and Response, if entered, places the Claims in a condition for allowance and respectfully requests that such action be taken by the Examiner at this time.

Should a telephone conference be necessary to assist the Examiner's evaluation of this application, a telephone call to the undersigned at (305) 448-7089 is respectfully solicited.

Dated: May 17, 2004

By: 

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USPTO Reg. No. 46,167

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Post Office Drawer 141098

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Docket No.: 08056-1-0020